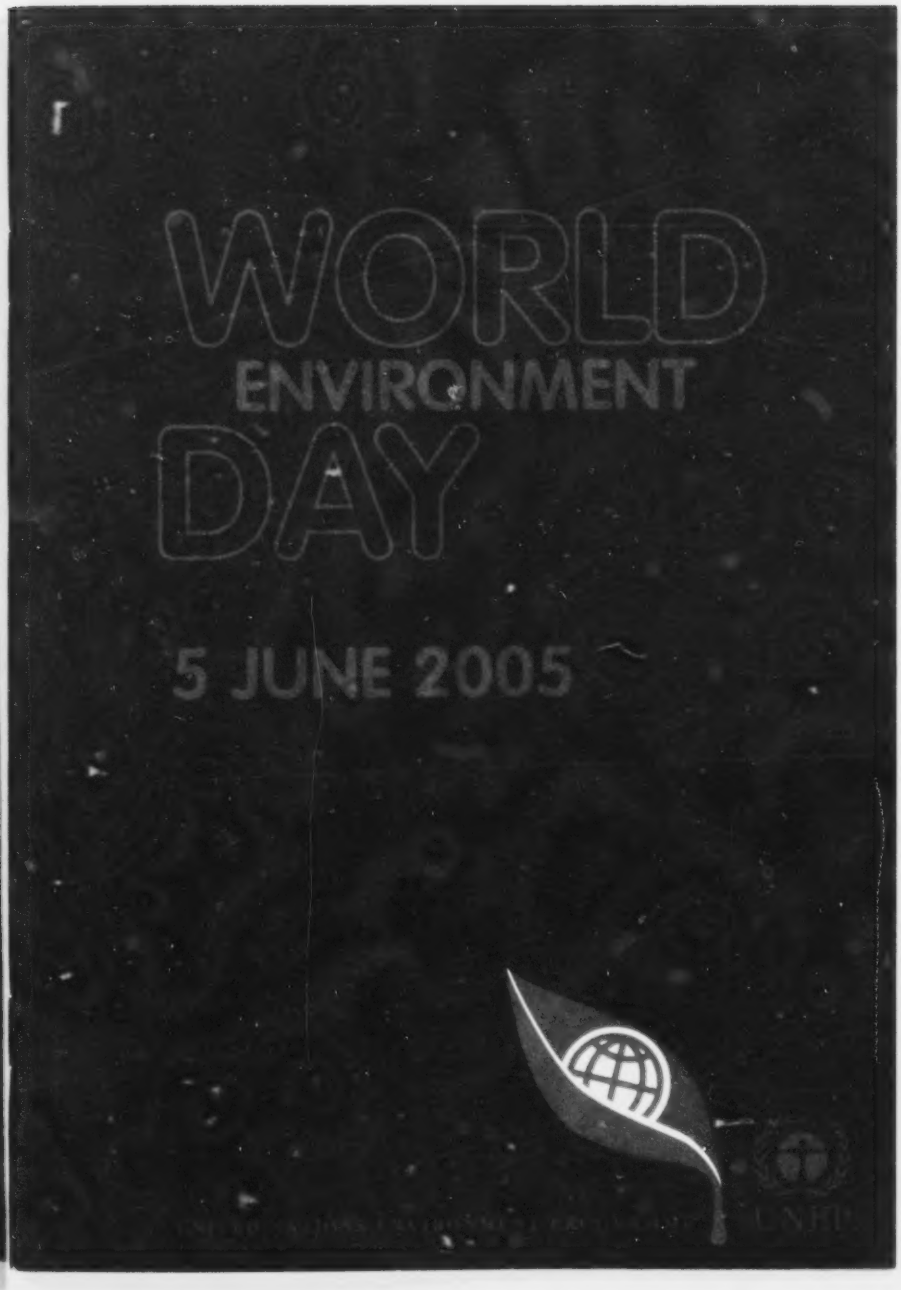
WORLD
ENVIRONMENT
DAY
5 JUNE 2005

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

5 JUNE 2005

UNEP

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

GREEN
CITIES
PLAN FOR
THE PLANET!

World Environment Day 5 June

World Environment Day is the United Nations flagship environmental event, celebrated every year on 5 June in more than 100 countries around the world. It was established in 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly and its commemoration is entrusted to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), whose international headquarters are located in Nairobi, Kenya.

The purpose of World Environment Day is to focus worldwide attention onto the importance of the environment and stimulate political attention and action. The event seeks to give a human face to environmental issues; empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development; promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues; and advocate partnership which will ensure that all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

Each year, a different city is chosen as the principal venue for the global celebration of World Environment Day. The host government and/or city, in cooperation with UNEP, set the tone for the event. A theme, slogan and logo are selected to be the focus for all World Environment Day information materials and promotional activities worldwide.

Interest in World Environment Day is growing each year, as evidenced by the number of countries which lend their support to this important United Nations Day, by the expanding list of municipalities, businesses and communities that participate, and by the hundreds of thousands of individuals who visit UNEP's World Environment Day web site.

Activities planned before and during World Environment Day are wide ranging. Essentially it is a "a people's event", with colourful activities such as street rallies, bicycle parades, green concerts, essay competitions in schools, tree planting, recycling and clean up campaigns.

World Environment Day is also meant to be an "intellectual" event, providing opportunities for seminars, workshops and symposiums on preserving the environmental health of our planet for the benefit of generations to come. The media play a critical role,

and the event inspires thousands of journalists around the world to report on the environment.

The Day enhances political attention and action. Local and regional officials, Heads of State and Government and, of course, Ministers of the Environment deliver statements and commit themselves to care for the Earth. For example, in 1994, President Fidel Ramos called upon filipinos to pause exactly at noon on 5 June and simultaneously "think clean, think green and with positive and joy-filled energy restore to nature the energy borrowed from it". More solemn pledges are made which lead to the establishment of permanent governmental structures dealing with environmental management and economic planning. World Environment Day also provides an opportunity to sign or ratify international conventions.

World Environment Day host cities (since 1987)

YEAR	CITY	COUNTRY
2005	San Francisco	United States
2004	Barcelona	Spain
2003	Beirut	Lebanon
2002	Shenzhen	China
2001	Torino/Havana	Italy/Cuba
2000	Adelaide	Australia
1999	Tokyo	Japan
1998	Moscow	Russian Federation
1997	Seoul	Republic of Kore
1996	Istanbul	Turkey
1995	Pretoria	South Africa
1994	London	United Kingdom
1993	Beijing	China
1992	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
1991	Stockholm	Sweden
1990	Mexico City	Mexico
1989	Brussels	Belgium
1988	Bangkok	Thailand
1987	Nairobi	Kenya

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Message of the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the occasion of World Environment Day, 5 June 2005

The urban environmental challenge

The theme for this year's observance of World Environment Day, "Green Cities: Plan for the Planet!", highlights the challenges raised by one of the major trends of our times: the rapidly increasing proportion of people who are living in urban environments.

In the next quarter-century, almost all population growth will occur in cities, most of it in less developed countries. By 2030, more than 60 per cent of the world's population will live in urban areas. Such rapid urbanization presents profound challenges, from poverty and unemployment to crime and drug addiction. Already, one of every three urban dwellers lives in a slum. And in too many of the world's expanding towns and cities, environmental safeguards are few and planning is haphazard.

Indeed, the environmental consequences of urban growth are considerable. Cities are prolific users of natural resources and generators of waste. They produce most of the greenhouse gases that are causing global climate change. They often degrade local water quality, deplete aquifers, pollute the marine environment, foul the air and consume the land, thereby devastating biological diversity.

The rising concentration of humanity in cities and towns means the world will not achieve the Millennium Development Goals unless environmental planning is incorporated into all aspects of urban management. Creating environmentally friendly cities is an admittedly big challenge, but the technologies and expertise we need already exist. Clean transport, energy-efficient buildings, safe sanitation and economical water use are possible now, not just in the future, often in a manner that is affordable for all.

On this World Environment Day, I urge individuals, businesses, and local and national governments to take up the urban environmental challenge. Let us tap the great knowledge and natural dynamism of urban areas. And let us create "green cities" where people can raise their children and pursue their dreams in a well-planned, clean and healthy environment.

Human dignity and social progress

Sixty years ago in San Francisco the founding members of the United Nations pledged their determination to save future generations from the scourge of war and promote human dignity and social progress. If, as a global community, we are to fulfil these pledges, we will have to address the issue of the world's rapid urbanization. Too many of today's cities are breeding grounds for pollution, poverty, disease and despair, but they need not be. With careful planning, our cities can be flagships of sustainable development. This is our message for World Environment Day 2005. *Green Cities: Plan for the Planet!* is both a warning and a declaration of faith in our ability to turn the expansion of urban centres to the benefit of all.

Wherever we look, cities are crying out for answers. In the developing world, where urban population growth is most pronounced, more than a billion people are condemned to lives of poverty and ill-health because they are denied the clean water, basic sanitation and adequate shelter that people in the developed world often take for granted. Easing the burden of the world's poorest people will reap a double dividend, giving them a foothold on the ladder to a better life and helping to protect the environment on which we all depend.

Providing improved sanitation to the slums of the world will protect freshwater resources—and the sea into which all rivers flow. It will also help to save the lives of many of the 6,000 children who die every day from preventable diseases associated with lack of safe water and poor hygiene. Replacing wood fires with more sustainable energy sources will not only preserve forests but reduce air pollution. Respiratory disease is another of the world's great killers, and the developing world's growing megacities have the worst air quality. Air pollution can also be tackled by cleaning up vehicle exhausts and preventing the release of toxic fumes from burning plastic and other refuse by promoting appropriate waste collection and disposal.

UNEP is working in all these areas. Our energy and sustainable transport programmes are addressing the environmental consequences of energy production and use, from local air pollution to global warming. We are working to promote environmentally sound technological solutions to freshwater use and waste disposal,

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and our Sustainable Cities programme—in partnership with UN-Habitat, our sister agency—is helping cities to plan and manage their environment and share the lessons with local and national governments worldwide.

The challenges presented by growing urbanization are daunting, but they are not insurmountable. For example, towns and cities—predominantly those in the developed world—are currently responsible for most of the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change, mostly from cars, trucks and power stations. These emissions can be drastically cut by a combination of clean energy technologies coupled with enlightened city planning.

Imagine a city where buildings use solar power to help generate their own energy, and waste less because they use power-saving lighting and are well-insulated, where public transport is affordable and efficient, where vehicles pollute less because they are powered by electricity or hydrogen. That city has become part of the solution, not the problem. It is the city of the future. With the support of communities, businesses and, above all, governments, it can also be the city of today.

The world is not short of inspiring answers to the questions raised by the urban millennium. Across the globe, and not just in the developed world, there are examples of communities, businesses and governments working to redesign the metropolis. Traffic-clogged city centres are being reclaimed for pedestrians, green spaces preserved and expanded, recycling schemes promoted, environmentally friendly buildings designed. These examples are like seeds. The challenge is to nurture these seeds, propagate them, and spread them to the furthest reaches of the globe.

Towns and cities are humanity's home—and its future. Making that a future of peace, dignity and prosperity is the responsibility of all. It is appropriate, then, that World Environment Day 2005 is being celebrated in the birthplace of the organization founded to represent the interests of everyone, from the most powerful to the most humble. We, the peoples of the United Nations, need to look forward with hope. That hope lies in Green Cities.

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Build a healthy respect for our planet

United Nations World Environment Day is one of the most important events on the international environmental calender. California and San Francisco are honored to be the first hosts in the United States for World Environment Day.

The environment is an essential part of the California experience. The state's stunning beauty lies in its diverse natural wonders and resources. I am passionately committed to defending California's environment, and providing real leadership to protect our precious land, air, and water.

Here in California, we have rejected the notion that we must choose between protecting the environment, and protecting jobs and economic growth. *We know that* if our beaches are soiled by oil spills, tourists will not experience the wonders of our magnificent coastline. If we log our forests irresponsibly, streambeds will be destroyed and our fishing industry will suffer.

But, California is not alone in facing this challenge. If we are going to leave a better planet for generations to come, we must work within a global effort to ensure the economy and the environment never become competing interests.

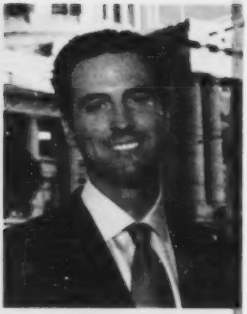
United Nations World Environment Day will help us focus on these critical issues, but there is an added significance to the event coming to San Francisco.

Sixty years ago, the United Nations was born in the City by the Bay. Representatives from fifty-one countries committed to preserving peace through international cooperation and collective security founded the United Nations at the 1945 charter convention in San Francisco.

Today, nearly every nation in the world belongs to the United Nations. Together, members work to maintain international peace, develop friendly relations, cooperate in solving international problems, and promote respect for human rights.

As the nations of the world meet this week in San Francisco, we can add another great principle to the list: working together to build a sustainable future and a healthy respect for our planet.

Sustain our planet and our people



San Francisco is honored to host United Nations World Environment Day 2005. We are delighted to work with the United Nations Environment Programme to make sure that World Environment Day in San Francisco leaves a legacy that will advance environmental wellbeing here at home and around the world.

The theme for World Environment Day 2005 is 'Green Cities'. This is particularly fitting since the 21st century is the first time that most of the world's population will live in cities. As urban populations grow, it becomes more and more vital to balance the needs of the environment, the economy, and social equity if we are going to develop a way of living that can sustain our planet and our people into future generations.

The population shift from rural areas to the cities will have a dramaticimpact on the planet's resources. It will also result in significant political changes where city governments will become directly responsible for solving critical environmental issues.

Every city in the world depends on rural territories many times its size to provide food and water for its citizens, to say nothing of the resources required to produce consumer goods. But to date little attention has been paid to developing the tools cities will need to solve these environmental challenges.

World Environment Day 2005 will feature a series of special events focusing on urban environmental issues such as recycling, renewable energy, resource conservation, environmental justice and public health. Mayors from the world's largest cities will share ideas and experiences, establish goals for urban environmental improvement, and identify the means to attain these goals. This will all be compiled into a document called the San Francisco Urban Environmental Accords, a first-ever set of environmental agreements made between municipal governments.

These accords will help all of us to act locally, while thinking globally.

Issues for the
urban millennium

- In 1950 less than one person in three lived in a town or city. Today nearly half the world's population is urban. By 2030 the proportion will be more than 60 per cent.

- Virtually all population growth in the next quarter-century will be in urban areas in the less developed countries. The fastest growth will not be in the bigger cities but in urban centres with fewer than 500,000 people.

- In 2000 there were 402 cities with between 1 and 5 million inhabitants; and 22 cities with between 5 and 10 million. In 1950 New York was the only city with more than 10 million people. By 2015, there will be 23 such cities, 19 of them in developing countries.

- In the more developed countries, 75 per cent of the population is urban. The proportion of urban dwellers in the Asian region is less than 40 per cent, but its urban population is 1.5 billion—more than Europe, Latin America, Oceania and North America combined. Africa is the least urbanized continent, but its urban population is the fastest growing.

- Urbanization in the developed world has largely coincided with economic growth and increases in welfare. This is not the case with developing countries. For example, in Africa, more than 70 per cent of the urban population—over 160 million people—lives in slums. Since 1990, Africa's urban slum population has grown by almost 5 per cent a year and is on course to double every 15 years.

- At least 1 billion people, mainly in Asia, Africa and Latin America live in improvised slums and informal squatter settlements, which are neither legally recognized nor serviced by city authorities. By 2020 the figure could be more than 2 billion people.

- One of the targets of Millennium Development Goal 7 (to ensure environmental sustainability) is to significantly improve the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020. Environmental factors are a major cause of death, disease and lost productivity, all of which conspire to perpetuate poverty.

- Unsafe water and inadequate sanitation are typical hazards of living in slums. Diarrhoea is the second most common cause of child mortality, estimated to be responsible for 12 per cent of deaths of children under five in developing countries—1.3 million deaths every year.

- Slum dwellers generally also have to contend with poor air quality. Approximately 2 million children under five die each year from acute respiratory infections. The largest global killer of young children, these infections are aggravated by environmental factors such as indoor and outdoor air pollution.

- According to the World Health Organization, 1.5 billion urban residents endure levels of outdoor air pollution that exceed maximum recommended levels. As many as half a million deaths can be

attributed to particulate and sulphur dioxide air pollution alone, mostly from vehicle exhaust emissions. One study estimates that up to one in five lung cancer cases in the United States are due to vehicle emissions.

- Burning refuse, especially plastics and other hazardous waste, also affects air quality. The global health costs of air pollution are estimated at US $1 billion. In developed countries air pollution costs are close to 2 per cent of GDP; in developing countries the figure is between 5 and 20 per cent.

- Power generation, industry and transport—currently mainly associated with towns and cities in the developed world—are responsible for the majority of emissions of carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas that is causing climate change.

- Over the next quarter-century, it is estimated that carbon dioxide emissions, mostly from cars, trucks and power stations, will rise by 60 per cent. More than two-thirds of the increase will come from developing countries as a consequence of fast economic growth and a significant increase in car ownership.

- Climate change is a threat to low-lying and coastal towns and cities due to sea level rise, and more frequent and severe storms. Growing urban populations—especially those in slums—are more vulnerable to natural disasters. Approximately 40 per cent of the world's population lives within 60 kilometres of the coast.

- Urbanization and economic development habitually goes hand-in-hand with increased per capita resource consumption and waste generation. Urban dwellers in the developed world generate up to six times as much waste as in developing countries.

- Municipalities can spend as much as 30 per cent of their budget on waste disposal, mostly on transportation. The costs are often exacerbated by diminishing availability of suitable land as urban areas spread and land prices rise.

- In developing countries, the cost of solid waste management can be even higher, up to 50 percent of recurrent budgets. The infrastructure for safe disposal of waste is also often lacking. Between 30 and 60 per cent of urban solid waste is uncollected and less than 50 per cent of the population is served.

- As towns and cities develop so does their reliance on resources from further afield, as well as their environmental impact—what is known as their ecological footprint.

- The ecological footprint of London, UK, is 120 times the city's area. An average North American city with a population of 650,000 requires 30,000 square kilometres of land to service its needs. In contrast, a similar sized city but less affluent city in India requires 2,800 square kilometres.

- Since 1950 global fossil fuel use has increased by 500 per cent. Freshwater consumption has nearly doubled since 1960, and the marine

catch has quadrupled. A city of 10 million people—for example Manila, Cairo or Rio de Janeiro—imports at least 6,000 tonnes of food every day.

- More than half of freshwater tapped for human use goes to urban areas: for industry, for drinking and sanitation purposes, or via irrigation for crops. Up to 65 per cent of water used for irrigation is wasted.

- In many developing country cities between 40 and 60 per cent of costly drinkable water is lost because of leaks in pipes and illegal connections. Even in industrialized countries, as much as a quarter of piped water is wasted.

- Urban air temperatures can be as much as 5 C hotter than the surrounding countryside when natural land cover is replaced by roads and buildings. This phenomenon, known as the 'heat island effect', can be mitigated by preserving or creating green spaces in cities.

- Green areas in urban settlements serve many other purposes. Urban forests produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide, thus enhancing air quality. They provide storm water control and provide a home for urban wildlife.

- Managed well, urban settlements can support growing concentrations of people, limiting their impact on the environment and improving their health and living standards. National and local laws and subsidies can discourage waste, encourage conservation and promote sustainable solutions.

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- Examples of good management include the use of so-called grey water to flush toilets; low-polluting vehicles and efficient public transport systems that solve gridlock problems and clean up the atmosphere; low-energy lighting that saves energy; and waste recycling schemes.

- There are many examples from around the globe of local governments, citizens' organizations, business and industry devising and implementing innovative answers to the issues of the urban millennium and creating Green Cities. Links to their activities, and more information about urbanization and the environment is available from the UNEP World Environment Day Website http://www.unep.org/wed/2005/english/.

The World Environment Day alphabet
60 ways to celebrate

A
Award presentations (for environment-related activities)
Art using recycled materials
Auctions to benefit an environmental project
Awareness campaign

B
Bicycle parades/races
Broadcast of public service announcements (TV and radio)

C
Carpools
Celebrity support
Clean-up campaigns
Competitions (banner, drawing, essay, painting, poster, poetry)
Conferences on the environment

D
Discussions (small and large groups)
Distribution of leaflets, brochures and posters

E
Environmental education programmes in schools
Establishment of governmental structures dealing with environmental management
Excursions to nature sites
Exhibitions (drawings, posters, photos and paintings)

F
Fairs
Film festivals on the environment/screening of environmental films

G
Green concerts
Guidelines on how the community can undertake environmental protection activities

H
Hoist banners at major intersections in cities

I
Involve various partners (NGOs, ministries of environment, youth groups, celebrities, business, industry, private sector)

J
Join an environmental group

K
Keep your neighbourhood clean
Kick start an environmental campaign
Know your rights

L
Launch of government environment policies, books and reports

M
Media coverage and activities (TV and radio programmes and interviews, newspaper articles, editorials, letters to the editor on the environment)

N
Network
Never litter

O
Organize a special event

P
Parades
Performances (plays, songs, poetry)
Promotional materials related to theme (T-shirts, stickers, bookmarks)
Puppet shows for children featuring environmental messages

Q
Quizzes related to the theme for schools, youth groups, company staff, etc...

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R
Rallies
Ratify international environmental conventions
Recycle
Rehabilitate natural habitats
Repair
Reuse

S
Save paper
Seminars
Sign international environmental conventions
Sort rubbish
Sponsorship from private sector
Symposia

T
Tree planting

U
Use sustainable modes of transportation (walking, jogging, cycling, skating, carpool)

V
Voice your concerns
Volunteer for organizations such as Clean Up the World
Vote for the environment

W
Workshops
Write plays, poems, songs
Write letters to your civic leaders, members of parliament, national government and newspapers

X
X-press your concern for the environment

Y
Youth-led activities

Z
Zero emissions

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World Environment Day can be celebrated in many ways. The following are a partial list of inspiring examples of how World Environment Day has been celebrated using the World Environment Day 2004 theme: *Wanted! Seas and Oceans – Dead or Alive?*

AFRICA

BENIN

Cotonou

The Agency of Young Reporters of Environment and Health in Benin (AYOREB) organized a youth-led march to disseminate information about the need to protect the environment on the occasion of World Environment Day. This event was followed by a live debate/conference on the State of the Environment in Benin today and the expectations of the youth.

EGYPT

World Environment Day was celebrated on the Red Sea coast of Egypt from Hurghada to Wadi El Gemal National Park with underwater, beach and mangrove clean-ups and with events honouring those who participated in protecting this valuable resource.

In the environs of Hurghada, the World Environment Day festivities began in the morning with an underwater clean-up of a snorkeling reef at Small Magawish Island, followed by an afternoon clean-up around a shipwreck on Sheraton Reef. Divers collected six large sacks of bottles, pipes, fishing nets, ropes, plastics and metals. Other heavy items on the seafloor included tyres, iron railings, a porcelain toilet and concrete blocks.

The Red Sea Rangers, the USAID-funded Red Sea Sustainable Development Project and the Academy for Educational Development joined forces with the Red Sea Governorate and the Red Sea Diving and Water Sports Association to sponsor these activities.

Near the town of Quseir, clean-up activities took place in three other coastal mangrove areas, Wadi Abu Hamara, Sharm el Bahari and Sharm el Qibli. The rangers collaborated with local tourist resorts, diving centers and local residents to collect more than 80 large bags of refuse. At the end of the day, the Quseir Ranger Office awarded certificates of appreciation to the participants. Further south on Wadi El Gimal Island, divers, tourists, young people and the general public from the coastal resorts participated along with the Marsa Alam and Shams Alam Rangers in removing garbage from the island's beaches, one of which is host to 80 Hawksbill Turtle nests.

Children from the El Mina preparatory school in Hurghada performed a play on the Red Sea as part of their effort for the Environmental Award Programme in Egypt. This was followed by a quiz on the Red Sea in which the ublic participated and thereafter prizes were given to the winners.

GHANA

Accra

Earth Service, an environmental non-governmental organization (NGO) in Ghana launched UNEP's Plant for the Planet campaign on the occasion of World Environment Day. Some 1,500 people participated in the event including children from various schools, representatives of various UN agencies, e.g. the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), government ministries, corporations and the media as well as a number of NGOs.

KENYA

Nairobi

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Nairobi organized a symposium for the less privileged schools in the city. Seven schools, comprising 154 students and 20 teachers, participated in this event which was held at the United Nations Headquarters at Gigiri.

Dadaab

World Environment Day was marked by weeklong festivities in Dadaab Refugee Camp in North Eastern Kenya. Throughout the week, the refugees, the host community and aid agencies jointly participated in plastic waste collection, tree planting efforts, parabolic solar cooking competitions and football matches. Songs and dances, essays and plays illustrating the theme and accompanied by colourful banners, produced by the refugees, were showcased at selected venues. The German Technical Cooperation Agency (GTZ) reinforced the message with appropriately emblazoned T-shirts and caps, and awarded prizes for environmental achievements during the year.

LIBERIA

Monrovia

The Environment Theme Group of Liberia, under the direction and guidance of the Environmental Protection Agency and with support from the UNDP Country Office, observed World Environment Day in the capital, Monrovia. Activities, which lasted three days, included: outreach programmes to schools, camps for communities and internally displaced persons; a radio talk show programme; a bicycle race and a contest for young people and former combatants.

LIBYA

Tripoli

The United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Tripoli, Libya organized a one-week campaign on the environment for the general public under the title *Cleaning the Beach*. This activity was organized by the International Organization for Peace, Care and Relief, the Canadian Embassy, scouts and guides, among others. A drawing competition was also organized by the Canadian Embassy with the support of commercial firms.

On 5 June, the General Authority for Environment, the Gaddafi Foundation for Relief and a number of NGOs celebrated World Environment Day on the campus of the General Environment Authority in Tripoli. In addition, a seminar was held and a number of speeches delivered by high ranking officials.

MAURITIUS

Curepipe

The aim of the World Environment Day project in Mauritius was to attract the public's attention and to get them to actively participate in cleaning fallow land located on Pope Hennessy Road in Curepipe in order to regain fertility for future crops. The project consisted of creating a botanical garden, a retaining wall, a path, educational tours and a parking lane 180 metres long to promote sustainable, social and ecological development.

NIGERIA

Port Harcourt, Rivers State

The Niger Delta Leaders Forum, in conjunction with the Niger Delta Development Commission organized a National Summit/Workshop in Port Harcourt, Rivers State to discuss the environmental impact of oil exploration on the Niger Delta.

SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town

The City of Cape Town hosted the Youth Environmental School (YES) programme under the theme ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans – Deal or Alive?***

YES 2004 was the fifth programme the City hosted from 31 May to 4 June 2004 with an Eco-School Teachers' Workshop on 5 June, at the Chrysalis Academy in Tokai. YES was hosted at the Chrysalis Academy in Tokai with 15 satellite venues.

A total of 48 organizations with 65 presenters presented 77 different presentations and activities (e.g. Rivers for Life, Learn Not To Burn, Drug Awareness, Wetlands, Know Your Birds, Children Living on the Streets, Discover Science, HIV/AIDS and You).

The programme was open to all primary and special schools in the City and was free of charge.

To ensure that all schools had an equal opportunity to participate, especially marginalized schools, bus transport (two buses per school) were made available, free of charge. A total of 237 buses were used.

On 5 June an Eco-Schools Teacher's Workshop, with about 160 teachers, learners and service providers, was organized.

During the week there was a Teachers' Resource Centre with 33 exhibitors to assist teachers and schools with learning support materials (most of these resource were free).

TOGO

Lome

On 5 June, a network of 13 NGOs, The National Consumers and Environmental Alliance of Togo, called ANCE/Togo organized two activities to celebrate World Environment Day.

The first, an information meeting, chaired by the director of ANCE/Togo touched on a number of issues affecting the oceans and seas by the region's largest industrial companies including IFG-Togo, Benin Brewery, NIOTO and others and the agricultural overuse of chemical fertilizers in the coastal regions and near rivers. The meeting called upon the government and the public to take appropriate action to protect the marine ecosystem.

On the afternoon of World Environment Day, more than 4,000 people marched through the main streets of the capital Lome. The hour-long march helped draw the country's attention to the growing risks to seas and oceans and the need to adopt urgent measures to protect them.

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

To coincide with World Environment Day, eight high-profile Australians made a national plea over clear-felling. More than 300 people attended a public meeting in Perth, Western Australia, and 600 were present at a meeting in Brisbane. About 700 attended a meeting in Adelaide and about 1,600 were in Sydney. Rallies were also held in Melbourne and Sydney. In Hobart, World Environment Day was celebrated on the Parliament House lawns with dancers, bands, stalls and speeches.

The 2004 Lithgow Environmental Awards were held in conjunction with World Environment Day at the Lithgow Council Chambers.

Aitken Hill

Aitken Hill, Australia's only purpose built conference and events venue, set on 170 acres of rolling countryside just 25 minutes from Melbourne's city centre, planted 500 trees and shrubs on 5 June to help promote World Environment Day. The World Environment Day logo and a short description about the day on the Centre's messaging screens, which are located within the building and rooms, helped create awareness among the hundreds of people that pass through the building every week.

Kingscote, Kangaroo Island

In keeping with the World Environment Day theme, Kingscote Area School undertook a study of the marine environment with the participation of the entire school. The results, outlined in a brochure, were launched on World Environment Day.

In addition, a very large artwork created by students (with the aid of a local artist) from beach litter collected from around the island was unveiled.

Nelson Bay

On 5 - 6 June, the Nelson Bay Town Management celebrated its second annual Festival of The Whales to coincide with World Environment Day using the year's theme ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?*** The festival marked the commencement of the annual whale migration along Australia's east coast and was also a celebration of the local marine environment in Port Stephens - one of Australia's premier dolphin and whale watch centres.

Queensland

The Federal Labour Party launched the framework for its water policy to mark World Environment Day.

Hannaford's Events, an Australian-based company that owns an exciting new theatre product called Flames of the Forest (FOTF) – Theatre of light and shadow, which was pioneered with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA), organized a special event where guests experienced a theatre/dining and cultural event set in the rainforests of tropical north Queensland.

For World Environment Day, FOTF launched an Australian first - the 000 (One person, One tree, One world) concept – a regeneration project where every participant discovers they have generated the planting of one tree on Australian soil as they are entertained in the stunning surroundings of the rainforest during an FOTF evening.

St. Kilda, Victoria

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2004, Coast Care in conjunction with Quicksilver Board Riders Club, hosted an environmental rehabilitation and education day at the world famous Bells Beach known for its surfing. Everyone was invited to join in the revegetation of indigenous plants around the Winkipop area and come on an environmental interpretative tour.

Tasmania

Macquarie Island in the sub-Antarctic zone received a clean-up over two days as part of World Environment Day celebrations. A group of 14 volunteers took to the island's west coast to remove debris including fishing nets, ropes and plastic bags.

On World Environment Day 2004, Greens Senator Bob Brown called on Australia's 15 million voters to make saving Tasmania's forests and wildlife a vote changing issue in the impending election. There were rallies, concerts and other events around the nation for the iconic forests.

BANGLADESH

Dhaka

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Prime Minister inaugurated an environment fair at Oamani Memorial Auditorium and distributed prizes to the winners of the children and youth painting and essay writing competitions.

CHINA

Beijing

In Beijing, a number of activities were held to coincide with World Environment Day including: the launching ceremony on 5 June of the national green community campaign sponsored by the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) and the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) in a public square of a residential area; a launching ceremony of *I love China and I love Seas and Oceans – Campaign for Environmental Protection by China's Youngsters* jointly sponsored by the Song Chingling Foundation and SEPA in the Great Hall of the people. The *China Environment News* devoted a whole page to cover the information materials released by UNEP and activities of World Environment Day around the world. In addition, a State of Environment Report in China for 2003 was released by SEPA on 3 June 2004.

Hong Kong

As part of World Environment Day celebrations, the Hong Kong Business Environment Council organized a seminar on sustainable production and consumption at the Island's Shangri-la Hotel. The seminar attracted some 100 participants, mostly from the Hong Kong business sector.

Liaoning

Approximately 1,000 environmental protection volunteers in Dalian, held a rally at the Zhongshan Square to observe World Environment Day. Students from a dozen colleges and universities gave performances and delivered speeches on environmental protection at the square, which was adorned with billboards and posters. Under the slogan of ***Public involvement in environmental protection***, leading officials of numerous city departments in Dalian attended the day's activities in the capacity of volunteers instead of government officials.

INDIA

Chandigarh

To commemorate World Environment Day, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) organized a workshop at Khuda Ali Sher village to create environmental awareness among the public. People from as many as 100 villages participated. Many renowned experts from various fields and NGOs lectured on various environmental problems. A documentary film produced for WWF-INDIA highlighting various environmental concerns was also screened and various remedial strategies were discussed.

Theatre Arts, in association with the State Bank of India, organized a street play entitled *Prakrati ke Dushman* to mark World Environment Day. This spectacular performance depicted the multifarious environmental problems of deforestation, air, water and noise pollution. The satire on politicians captured the audience's imagination.

Chennai

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited organized a function to mark World Environment Day by giving prizes to the winners of various contests organized for the occasion. An environmental awareness exhibition was also organized. Airtel, a leading mobile service provider in the country, embarked on another 'green' drive on World Environment Day in collaboration with Exnara – an NGO.

Imphal

The All Manipur Rickshaw Drivers' and Pullers' Welfare Association carried out a rickshaw rally in Imphal city on 5 June.

Mumbai

On 5 June, celebrities dirtied their hands with Save Andheri Versova Environment (SAVE) volunteers and the residents of Lokhandwala and Versova, to give a new lease of life to Versova's mangroves.

Mysore

The Quality Inn Southern Star celebrated World Environment Day by prominently exhibiting in the lobby of the hotel posters depicting various factors affecting the environment. Guests were presented with bookmarks highlighting the importance of the day. A special programme to plant some 45 palm saplings by the General Manager and employees was organized.

New Delhi

On World Environment Day, the Centre for Media Studies organized the Screening of the documentary "***Green Peace – Miles to Go***". The film is about a bus journey across India to the places where forgotten communities are still fighting for their right to clean air, water and above all their right to live. The film documents the struggle of people across India, in a thousand Bhopals from Vellore in the South to Calcutta in the East.

INDONESIA

Balikpapan, East Kalimantan

To commemorate World Environment Day, the Save the Balikpapan Bay Foundation, a local coastal NGO in East Kalimantan, conducted a public awareness campaign entitled ***Save The Bay Now!*** The campaign included activities such as beach hiking, beach clean-up and the planting of mangrove trees, as well as children's competitions (e.g. sand castle building, colouring, poetry reading, essay writing and singing), a fair and bazaar, and interactive dialogues.

The dialogue was undertaken in partnership with a local FM radio station and a newspaper to discuss various local issues related to the World Environment Day theme, ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans – Dead or Alive?*** such as coastal city planning, beach reclamation, oil spill and pollution and mangrove conversion for Mari culture.

KOREA

Seoul

On 5 June, the official ceremony to celebrate World Environment Day was held in the auditorium of the Convention and Exhibition Centre.

More than 1,100 participants came from various sectors of society, including local and central governments, NGOs, industry and the armed forces. The Vice Prime Minister and the Environment Minister delivered statements and committed themselves to taking action to protect the environment.

Uijongbu, Republic of Korea

This year, the United States Army, the United States Forces Korea (USFK), Better Opportunities for Single and Unaccompanied Service Members (BOSS) Program, Camp Red Cloud, Area 1, planted trees in celebration of World Environment Day.

MALAYSIA

Malaya

On 29 May, the Environmental Education Programme Rimba Ilmu of the University of Malaya in Malaysia launched at the Rimba Ilmu Botanic Garden Building the second Children's Art Show to coincide with World Environment Day. The show was jointly organized by the University of Malaya, the Malaysian Nature Society and the Impact

Art Programme. An exhibition of 50 paintings on nature by a group of children was also produced. A silent auction of the paintings was held, and 60 per cent of the funds raised were donated to the Rimba Ilmu Botanic Garden.

Penang

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the World Fish Centre headquarters in Penang, Malaysia organized an awareness programme for its staff. World Environment Day posters were placed in strategic locations within the office complex and various articles about the year's theme, ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?*** were also circulated.

To mark the day, a special staff meeting was organized and staff members were treated to a short video clip on the state of the oceans. This led to discussions on how staff can contribute to the protection of the environment.

Other activities included a one-day clean-up of the neighbouring mangrove swamp and an International Coastal Clean-up led by the World Fish Centre with the participation of the local community and various organizations in the area.

NEPAL

Kathmandu

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Nepal Australia Community Resource Management and Livelihoods organization had a Tree Planting Day where local schools and communities were mobilized to plant trees and grass on roadsides and erosion sites in the Kabhre and Sindhu districts of Nepal.

NEW ZEALAND

On World Environment Day, International Waters called for deep-sea protection from the Greenpeace flagship, Rainbow Warrior II, by urging the population not to put life in the deep sea out of mind, because it was out of sight. Rainbow Warrior left Auckland for waters around New Zealand to investigate and document bottom trawl fishing practices. It was part of an international campaign to protect deep-sea life from the impacts of bottom trawling.

PAKISTAN

Karachi

On 4 June, on the occasion of World Environment Day, the Society for Environment of Pakistan (SEP), a newly established non-profit organization, organised in collaboration with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) and the Government of Sindh, a seminar at the Arts Council in Karachi based on the World Environment Day theme ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?***

Peshawar

The Human Resource Social Welfare Society International celebrated World Environment Day with an Environmental Award Ceremony in Peshawar. The ceremony was the culmination of a three-month campaign, which commenced with Earth Day celebrations on 22 April. It is estimated that one million people participated during the three-month period.

SRI LANKA

Galle, Southern Province

Rainforest Rescue International launched an awareness programme for 10 selected schools in Galle and Matara districts, to commemorate World Environment Day. The initiative was part of a national programme coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the participation of the relevant Municipal Councils of the two districts, which are the main coastal towns in the country. The main event took place at the Town Hall, Galle on 5 June followed by a tree planting exercise.

In addition, a beach-cleaning programme was organized in collaboration with the Municipal Council of Matara, the University of Ruhuna and several environmental organizations. The film *Biodiversity on Sea* was screened at the main bus station, Matara, which attracted more than 1,000 participants.

TAHITI-FRENCH POLYNESIA

The Ministry of the Environment of French Polynesia organized a variety of events to celebrate World Environment Day. Among these: radio public service announcements, a film showing and a poster competition. Environmental associations and children and youth from the Federation for non-denominational charities participated in the unveiling of billboards aimed at building awareness around the environmental protection of the Panenoo valley of Tahiti.

The programme "Ambassadors for the Environment," launched on the ocean-liner *Paul Gauguin*, ran from June to August, and used the knowledge of trainers from Jean-Yves Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society to educate children on the need to protect the rich resources of the ocean. The "Saga Vanille" campaign founded by Henri Cornette de Saint-Cyr and which is geared towards less advantaged children was also associated with the programme.

In addition, open-days were organized at various diving clubs around the islands, so as to raise awareness amongst vacationers to the need to protect the marine and lagoon ecosystems.

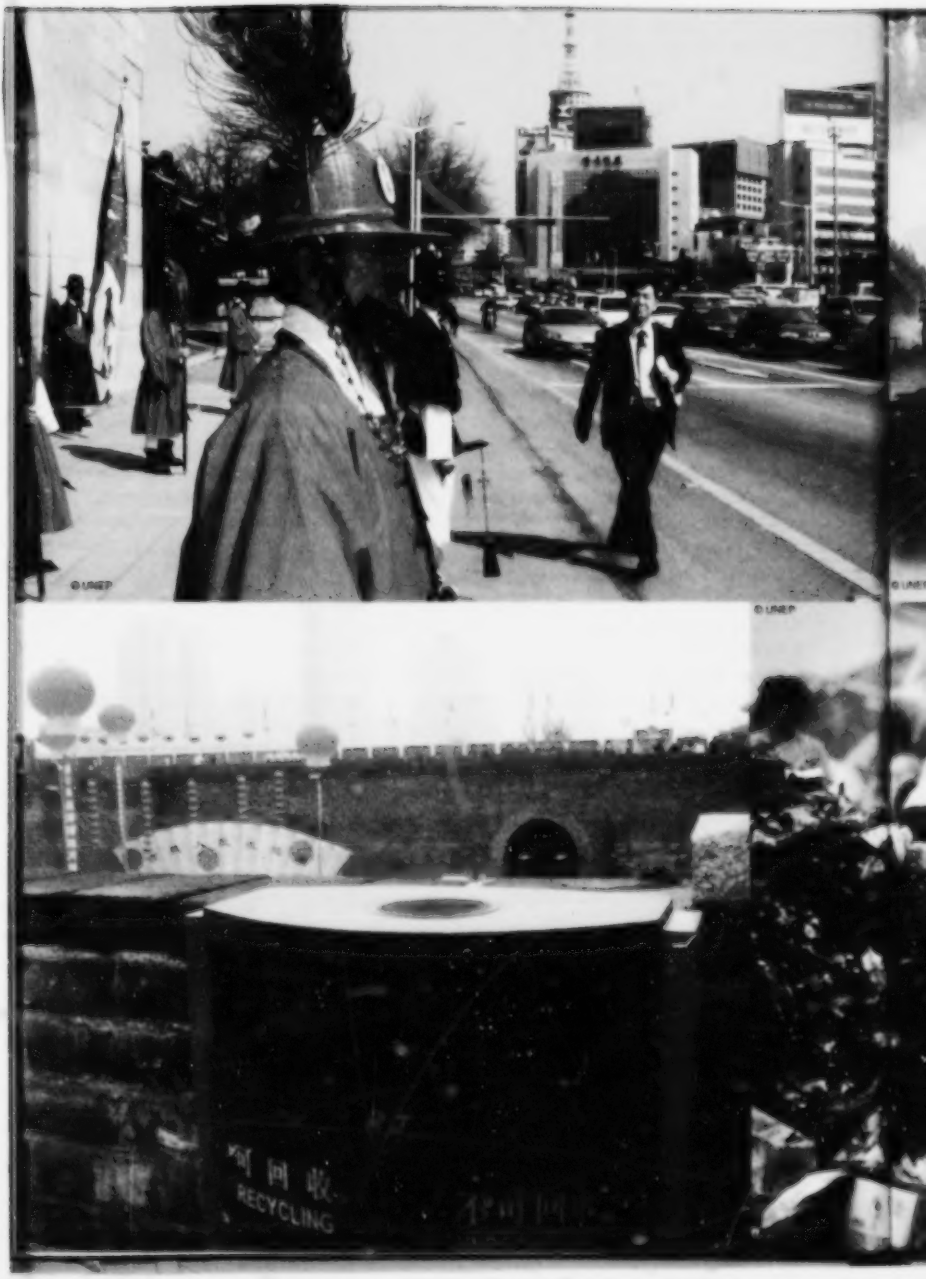
THAILAND

Bangkok

Greenpeace Southeast Asia hosted a public event to raise awareness of environmental crimes and their impact. *Protecting Life on Earth* the first ever photo exhibition on this subject, featured 45 images highlighting regional and international environmental problems such as illegal logging, toxins and genetically modified organisms. The exhibition was held on 4 to 6 June at Pakkad Palace.

Pattaya

On 3 June, in keeping with the year's theme, members of the government and the private sector - with the aid of Pattaya school children - went to Pattaya Beach to clean the beachfront and enjoy some fun and games. The day was split into two main competitions: the best World Environment Day poster design among the 10 Pattaya schools, and the second, the best items made out of recycled materials. Each aimed to educate the youth and the public on the need to care for the environment.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RECYCLING

EUROPE

BELGIUM

Brussels

In 2004, Green Week, organized by the European Commission (EC) and the Director-General (DG) of the Environment, took place from 1 to 4 June.

The EC and the DG announced the launch of the new "Clean Marine Award", which was presented for the first time on 1 June as part of Green Week. This award was very much in keeping with this year's World Environment Day theme: seas and oceans.

These awards were announced in the European Commission's Communication on a European Union strategy to reduce atmospheric emissions from seagoing ships. Their objective was to give positive publicity for environmentally responsible shipping, specifically low-emission initiatives, and to disseminate best practice. The Commission plans to celebrate these ceremonies on a biannual basis, through high profile events. The World Customs Organization (WCO) created a special web page on the occasion World Environment Day.

FINLAND

To celebrate World Environment Day, Lassila & Tikanoja* produced a 32-page recycling guide for Finnish consumers, which offers useful information about recycling waste in the home. Together with WWF, Lassila & Tikanoja created a web quiz about environmental issues and particularly about recycling. Lassila & Tikanoja also produced a song called *Blues and Greens*.

FRANCE

Paris

The City Council of Paris put a World Environment Day announcement on 177 electronic panels throughout the City from 26 May to 5 June. In addition, 100 World Environment Day posters were displayed in city halls and public libraries.

GERMANY

Hamburg

As a contribution to World Environment Day, the United World Philharmonic Youth Orchestra launched on its web site a seven-minute video-clip. The orchestra played the second mouvement, *Jeux de Vagues* of Claude Debussy's "La mer" - synchronized with images focusing on seas and oceans.

*Lassila & Tikanoja specializes in environmental management and property and plant maintenance all over Finland and is the market leader in environmental product trade in Finland. The company has over 6,200 employees.

GREECE

Athens

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Athens Environmental Foundation (AEF), in partnership with the Athens 2004 Organizing Committee (ATHOC) and UNEP, undertook with Jean-Michel Cousteau a special event in Piraeus, Greece. Activities included: a beach clean up at several beaches around Athens, including Piraeus - the Port of Athens – as well as an underwater clean-up with hundreds of divers in several spots in Greece. Five vessels participated in this exercise and three removed large debris from the seabed, including cars and refrigerators. In addition, municipal trucks hauled the debris for recycling and/or disposal. The other two vessels did a demonstration on oil spill containment.

Prior to this event, a ship with two divers went on site to survey what is under the water, map it and handed it to Mr. Cousteau and his team who were leading this expedition.

NORWAY

Oslo

The children's environmental organization Inky's Eco-detectives, a partner of UNEP, participated in a number of World Environment Day activities. The two riverbank towns of Hamar and Gjøvik, separated by Norway's largest lake Mjøsa, collaborated to clean up their lakes.

Bergen

In the city of Bergen, Inky's Ecodetectives named Bergen a Green Childrens' City, and a variety show for schoolchildren took place in the main town square on 4 June.

Tromsø

In the arctic town of Tromsø 5 June was celebrated under the midnight sun with a carnival and a storytelling festival.

SPAIN

Bilbao

For the third consecutive year, IHOBE - the public society of environmental management of the Basque Government Environmental Department - organized Basque Green Week (*Aste Berdea*) from 31 May to 6 June to coincide with World Environment Day. For the first time, more than 51 municipalities participated in Basque Green week with more than 200 green activities including exhibitions, films, conferences, visits to factories, theatres, competitions (photos, flowers, painting), ecological agriculture exhibits, and more.

SWITZERLAND

Gland

The three environmental organizations based in Gland, Switzerland – IUCN, Ramsar and WWF – joined forces to host a well-attended open house on World Environment Day, helping to put Gland on the map as a true world centre for conservation and sustainable development.

Between 800 and 1,000 people passed through the doors of the IUCN Headquarters, where adults and children were entertained and educated by an extensive marine exhibition and a multitude of imaginative children's games in line with the day's theme ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?*** A film was shown on IUCN's Marine Programme and a water-themed improvisation was staged.

There were expert-guided tours every hour on the hour through IUCN's natural garden. The day ended with more than 130 prizes being given out in a tombola draw that included thousands of prizes donated by local commercial and IUCN suppliers.

The World Environment Day open house has grown every year in both scope and vision and the public has responded accordingly," says Achim Steiner, then IUCN Director General. "It is our chance to give something back to the community and region that so generously hosts our headquarters.

Zurich

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2004, Zurich - the largest city and economic centre of Switzerland - went all out in support of the environment. Cleaner air, less noise, lighter traffic and transport, saving energy, protection of city-animals, tree and plant life, better hygiene in food handling in restaurants were some of the issues addressed.

At several city squares and other central locations, information stalls, interactive events and measuring equipment brought these issues closer to the approximately one million inhabitants of the Greater Zurich Area. Excursions to bat-colonies and other parts of Zurich's astonishingly rich «city wildlife» were a highlight for families.

UNITED KINGDOM

London

The Environment Agency web site provided tips on how to get involved in World Environment Day and how to do one's part, from organizing a big event... to simply turning the tap off!

Future Forests invited people to make a pledge to reduce their carbon dioxide emissions and so help protect the climate by purchasing a World Environment Day pack, comprising a tree dedicated to the purchases plus a pack of organic wild flower seeds, and by linking to a page detailing what it is that Future Forests' linked businesses have done.

The Roche Nursery School in London held a recycling week at school. This effort involved both children and parents to encourage the protection of the environment and what we can all do to help!

London Sustainability Weeks 2004 was held from 5 -19 June to coincide with World Environment Day. The aim of this event was to encourage community groups, businesses, local authorities and government to work together to create a cleaner, greener and healthier London.

Surrey

Stocksigns, a Surrey-based sign company, which manufactures bespoke and standard signage participated in World Environment Day by organizing a number of activities for staff on 11 June. The aim was to increase environmental efforts within the company and to raise money for the local charity – Wildlife Aid – which is involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of sick and injured British wildlife. Activities included: a staff car-sharing scheme; promotion of a new recycling scheme (incorporating domestic recycling, plastic and aerosols); construction of bird tables at the back of the factory; books and clothes swaps; a cake stall; and staff donations to 'dress down'.

Hemel Hempstead

Every year Epson Telford Limited has an Environment Month, which now falls in June to coincide with World Environment Day. During the month, Epson used various competitions and promotions to reinforce the Company's commitment to the environment and to raise the profile of local, regional and global environmental issues. Environment Month allows Epson to "up the ante" with its employees and the local community. In 2004, activities included a poetry competition with local schools using the World Environment Day slogan ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?*** The prize-winning school received an Epson Printer and the top three winning pupils also received prizes. In-house, an environmental quiz was held (also with a prize) using the World Environment Day theme.

UZBEKISTAN

Tashkent

The International Fund of Ecology and Health (ECOSAN) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan organized, on 1 to10 June, a festival to commemorate World Environment Day. ECOSAN's initiative was supported by the Government of Uzbekistan and was in line with its programme of large-scale activities, held throughout the Republic.

Activities included thematic exhibitions, a flower exhibition, painting competitions, presentations on ecology and health, as well as meetings and film showings on the environment at recreation camps and city and rural parks. A series of TV and radio programmes on environmental protection and sustainable development were also organized.

On 5 June, the popular morning radio show *Assalom, Uzbekistan!* devoted its entire programme to the environment, while the Yoshlar radio station, which broadcasts to the entire territory of Uzbekistan and neighbouring countries, organized an ecological radio-marathon.

The educational institutions in the Republic held meetings for students and faculty on the theme Youth and the Environment with the participation of leading scientists and ecologists from the Tashkent ECOSAN Club.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

CAYMAN ISLANDS

his year, using the theme ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?***, John Gray Recyclers commemorated World Environment Day in Grand Cayman by introducing plastic recycling into all the schools on the Islands.

The project entitled *Plastic Six Pack Holder Recycling* reflects the importance the organization attaches to the concept "ReUse" and "Recycle" because, to a great extent, marine debris consists of plastic items and six pack holders that strangle marine life such as turtles and birds.

These holders were taken to Bodden Beverages in Grand Cayman for "ReUse" and any left over were sent to the Hi-Cone Plant in the United States for Recycling. John Gray Recyclers also undertook a Clean-up of Barkers National Park - the first National Park in the Cayman Islands. They also undertook various media activities to promote the day.

GUYANA

Banks DIH Limited of Guyana has been participating in local World Environment Day walks for the past few years, however, in 2004 they went a step further and designed an initiative that would enhance local awareness about environmental problems.

Bank DIH Limited developed and sponsored a Secondary Schools World Environment Day Banner Competition based on the ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans-Dead or Alive?*** theme.

The overarching aim of the competition was to generate greater interest about environmental issues among secondary school students. Seventeen schools entered the competition and the Company further supported their interest by providing each school with banner material, paintbrushes and two cans of paint, with no limitations on the variety of paint colours to be used. In addition, each school provided a written description of their banner and its relevance to the theme.

The top three winners were awarded certificates and prizes, which benefited the entire school and not just the students involved in the actual banner design. The winning banner was used as Banks DIH's banner in the World Environment Day

HAITI

In 2004, the worldwide theme ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans: Dead or Alive?*** was transformed to ***SOS! Let s Save our Mountains, Coasts and Seas***

Activities were held in all the large coastal cities, including the capital Port-au-Prince, Gonaives, Saint-Marc, Jacmel, Cayes and Jeremie. Amongst the activities undertaken: a press conference on 4 June to mark the launch of Environment Week (organized by the Ministries of Environment, Public Health, Public Works, Agriculture and Planning in collaboration with Civil Society, the City Hall of the Metropolis, and environmental associations); statements by the Prime Minister and the mayors of the cities concerned; development of educational materials distributed to members of the country's coastal associations; clean-ups of important canals, drains and sewage openings in the metropolitan area and the bigger cities in the country; an awareness building campaign; a parade through all the cities targeted followed by the cleaning of beaches and forests; hoisting of promotional banners at all major intersections in the capital and provincial cities; broadcasting of awareness-buildingpublic service announcements in the capital and other targeted cities; distribution of leaflets, brochures and posters to targeted groups; environmental excursions to nature sites around the Capital; launch of two nationwide competitions: one to decide on three zones where botanical centres would be set up; and another to select an Environment anthem.

NORTH AMERICA

CANADA

For more than 30 years, Canadian Environment Week has been held during the first week of June to coincide with World Environment Day.

In 2004, the Government of Canada launched the Commuter Challenge – a friendly competition between Canadian communities to encourage as many people as possible to use sustainable and active modes of transportation. All one had to do was make a commitment to walk, jog, cycle, in-line skate, take the bus, carpool or telework during Environment Week.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

New York City

The Sea Turtle Restoration Project organized gratis the screening of two documentaries entitled *Last Voyage of the Leatherback* (East Coast premier) and *Deadly Sounds in the Silent World*. The screenings were followed by a panel discussion concerning the role of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in preventing the extinction of endangered leatherback sea turtles.

and marine mammals. The event addressed the theme of the World Environment Day ***Wanted! Seas and Oceans - Dead or Alive?*** on the eve of the UNCLOS meeting which was held on 7 to 11 June.

Providence, Rhode Island

The Ocean Project (TOP) is a relatively new and unprecedented public awareness initiative among more than 520 aquariums, zoos, science, technology and natural history museums, as well as conservation organizations and government agencies. The aim is to significantly increase the success of ocean conservation by creating in people a lasting, measurable, top-of-mind awareness of the importance, value and sensitivity of the oceans.

TOP launched this new initiative on the occasion of World Environment Day on 5 June and World Ocean Day on 8 June.

San Francisco

The City of San Francisco organized a series of events on 5 June to launch its preparations for hosting World Environment Day in 2005. One of the events was the showing of the movie *Ocean Wonderland* at the local SONY IMAX/3d film theatre in downtown San Francisco.

WEST ASIA

PALESTINE

The Environmental Education Centre (EEC) has been celebrating World Environment Day since 1992. In 2004 EEC celebrated this occasion together with the Bethlehem Peace Centre (BPC) - an organization with which they have been cooperating since the year 2000.

EEC and BPC had an open day on 5 June with lots of environmental and recreational activities. Their target group were students from 12 different schools from the Bethlehem area. The students were chosen from the environmental clubs EEC and BPC established in their schools. The programme began with a pre- ntation about biodiversity, followed by group discussions on local and global environmental problems.

QATAR

The Kainat Foundation in Doha, Qatar - a non-governmental organisation working with young people to raise environmental awareness -- undertook a number of activities to commemorate World Environment Day 2004, including: a mock world parliament on the environment; a poster and photography competition; an essay writing competition; a tree planting exercise; and a clean up campaign.

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